

# WATER WHAT WE WANT

## Irrigation Projects Should Have Our Particular Attention Now

### IDAHO PROJECTS MAKING GOOD

#### Idaho Offers Great Field for Such Operations When Properly Exploited and Placed Before Capital--Harney County Projects Biggest in The West.

A comparison of Oregon and Idaho respecting both Carey Act and Government irrigation projects does not give an Oregonian a glimmer of pride or make him feel all up," as we suffer by such comparison. Our sister state has had practical business administrations in handling irrigation projects to the end that there are several projects that are completed and have made good.

The Twin Falls project is an example of what can be done in the Great Harney Valley, as it is the same altitude and crops are successful there should be grown here. Twin Falls has a water supply of water but no other advantage. We have sufficient water according to those who have investigated, and our soil will hold moisture more than the Idaho project. That is what we term here as a land and underlaid with water while we have moisture on the surface all over Harney Valley that a small amount of surface irrigation will penetrate to and thus require less arduous application to produce just as good or better results.

Twin Falls didn't have a railroad when that project was started, but it brought one and now wonderful crops are being raised. The Short Line is not doing with a branch but is cutting the road through that of the Minidoka projects on the way to connect with the main line. Nyssa, this state and this in fact be the main line of the project when completed.

One can readily realize what it would do in this section. The water properly conserving and economically handled the Minidoka and Twin Falls irrigation project would be a mere drop compared to area and the road through Malheur canyon. The Deschutes would be the direct line from the east to the coast. The possibilities here are greater than many of the regularly advertised irrigation projects now in operation.

Why not turn our energies to this particular line of development? We have secured the location for a farm experiment station that will work to the advantage of the entire section, yet it is not what we are striving for. The dry farm method is good and should be encouraged, as we have great areas susceptible to irrigation but don't want to stop at this. There are greater things that we should have our attention. One of the farm will produce better than twice what any dry farm no matter how well tilled, produce. We have these facilities within our reach and persistent work we can have them. There is no use in waiting for railroads. We've done that long enough. We must get busy on the work and force the roads to build--and we can.

Individual who has visited irrigated sections and seen the back to Harney county with greater faith in the future. We appreciate then the great need and urge the necessity of immediate action.

The state land board seems to be going down to "brass tacks" and Act projects which will cover over the country and give irrigation a boost. We have many such projects in this section but we have the best and most feasible irrigation projects in the west that only require to be developed and this can be attracted to them

by all the people taking an interest and helping local promoters get the fact before it.

The irrigation projects of Harney county are its salvation and most important.

#### REASONING IN A CIRCLE.

"You are reasoning in a circle, my friend, when you ought to cut cross lots."

Thus, did Si Hawkins, a plain, untutored, but hard-headed farmer, puncture the labored philosophy of a high-browed exponent of domestic economics, who had just climaxed an address to a gathering of farmers with the statement "that the cause of high prices and the high cost of living is freight rates, and the cure is a reduction in rates."

"I am only a plain farmer," "but I, too, have given the high cost of living some thought; not, however, in a rocking chair in a richly furnished study, but in a lumber wagon up to the hogs in mud, and while walking between the handles of a plow. That is the college which I matriculated and learner what I know of economics."

"Before this, I too, had formed some opinion from garbled sophistry which I found in books and speeches by theorists and office-seeking politicians, but it has hauling half a load of hogs to market the other day over a road knee-deep in mud that made me realize there were other than freight rates involved in the high cost of living. I had a case of eggs at my feet one side and a tin of butter on the other, both bringing such good prices that mother--bless her dear heart, she looks better in calico than other women in silk--cautioned me against reckless driving."

"A new idea came to me. It was by giving the consumer the benefit of the waste that attaches to existing methods and conditions, we could by this alone greatly reduce the cost of living."

"That set me to figuring. It took me a whole day with a team and wagon to haul 1500 lbs. of hogs the ten miles I had to go. At the rate of \$3.50 per day for team and driver, I easily ascertained that the wagon haul without allowing anything for repairs or keeping of myself and team, was costing 46 cents a ton per mile. Great Heavens! that was over sixty-one times more than the average charge a ton per mile by the railroad, as shown by the reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and yet everybody seeking to reduce the high cost of living was bitterly inveighing against railroad rates and blindly marching behind blind leaders to the end. When roads are not muddy, I hauled 2500 lbs. to a load and yet that was 28 cents a ton per mile, or over thirty-seven times more than the average charge by the railroads. The reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission showed that the average cost by railroad was 1/2 of one cent a ton per mile.

# WANT RABBIT BOUNTY

## Rye Grass Grange Passes Resolution Asking Relief From Pests

### HOMESTEADERS DISCOURAGED

#### Thousands of Acres of Grain Destroyed This Season And Homesteaders Commute and Moving Away--Other Communities Asked to Take Similar Action.

Fred Denstedt was a caller at this office the first of the week and stated that Rye Grass Grange had passed resolutions at a recent meeting asking the county court to put a bounty of 5 cents on rabbits. Mr. Denstedt states that these pests have destroyed thousands of bushels of grain in Harney county this season and that relief was absolutely necessary if we are going to keep our settlers in their places and till the soil. Some have fenced against the pests but this doesn't seem effective as the rabbits will dig under in places, besides it is a big expense to fence a field of any size against them, especially since it seems almost impossible to this keep them out.

Mr. Denstedt feels that the struggling homesteader should have encouragement and some protection if we are to develop this big country and make a farming section of it. They have to pay big prices for seed and provisions, clear the land and put in much time in order to raise a crop on the sage brush soil where irrigation cannot be secured. Those who are able to profit, extravagant and unsystematic methods of distribution and other kindred causes. These may be new phases of the real causes of high prices, as viewed by the economic expert, who plows, sows and reaps in rocking chairs within four walls, but they are hard realities to the farmer."

#### BACK TO THE FARM AND NO MISTAKE

Of 66 graduates in 1910 and 1911 from the animal husbandry department of the agricultural college of Iowa, 52 went back to the farm. All were offered positions of \$1000 to \$1800 salary, but each preferred to put his scientific training into practical use on Iowa lands.

Eight of the fourteen who chose other walks become college instructors; three are in agricultural journalism, two are teachers of agricultural, and one is in dairy test work.

In the Oregon Agricultural college in 1910 many more positions were offered the graduates in horticulture and agriculture than there were men to accept. Many of the positions were as superintendents or managers of large orchards and all at good salaries. Many of the positions went unfilled from that source because a large per cent of the graduates went back to the farm.

The agricultural colleges are fast convincing their students and the public that life on the land is not a mere makeshift, but a highly interesting, extremely independent and thrifty activity. The old idea that we can farm when we cannot do anything else, and that the farm life is a sphere for the dullards and unfits is being exploded.

In the well known utterance of James J. Hill, often reiterated, the land is a gold mine. The soil never stops producing. With intelligent care, it will yield better after centuries of use than it did in the beginning. The average yield in England has risen from its former figures of 10 bushels to 29.

Farming is no longer an accident. It is the biggest activity in the country. It is the basis of all prosperity. It is the underlying structure on which all industry is built. It supplies more than 40 per cent of the raw material for our boasted manufactured products. Its annual creation of wealth is now nearly a billion dollars, or nearly twice as much as all the gold mined in the country in a century.

What field offers wider scope or better reward to bright young men.--Ex.

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# SOME RAILROAD TALK

## Route of Invasion of Hill Road Said To Pass Through Here

### THE MALHEUR PASS TO BE USED

#### Location Engineer Names High Spots Which it is Proposed to Touch But Fails to Mention Harney Valley Through Which Road Must Pass up Malheur.

A veteran location engineer who has been in Northwestern railroad service for years and who has roughed it over thousands of miles of projected rail lines in Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon is in Portland with information to the effect that the "high spots" which the Hill interests will touch in their invasion of California are: Logan City, Mont., on the Northern Pacific mainline; Gilmore, Pacific & Idaho Northern, Boise & Western, surveys which Hill disposed of to the Harrimans but retained a right for joint use through the Malheur Canyon, the Nevada, California & Oregon now under construction from a point on the Western Pacific to Lakeview, Or., and the Western Pacific

(Continued on page two)

While numerous unofficial reports have indicated that Western Montana and Central Idaho are the critical battlegrounds of Hill and Harriman forces have brought out the fact that surveying parties of both systems reconnoitering for favorable routes, no definite indication as to the exact lines which will be followed have been revealed until now.

Carl Ladewig was the original discoverer of the quartz, assays of which has given rise to the present rush. Together with John Steidl, a local man of considerable means, he has prospected over the territory where the discovery was finally made. Several weeks ago, it is understood, these men and others filed upon a group of claims and commenced preliminary work, whose subsequent discovery precipitated the excitement.

#### Special Train Excursion to Seashore.

The Oregon, Washington Railroad & Navigation Company will operate a special train consisting of free reclining chair cars, tourist and standard sleeping cars to Portland in connection with Steamer T. J. Potter to the resorts on Long Beach and Astoria. Special will leave Baker at 6:15 p.m., Wednesday August 23rd, arriving Portland following morning at 7:15 a.m. Passengers may have choice of steamers leaving Portland at 8:30 a.m., or at 8:00 p.m., either the day of arrival or the day following. A rate of \$12.50, children half fare, will be made from Baker and the tickets will be good for fifteen days, permitting stopover privileges at Portland and Astoria on the return. Reduced rates will be made on the Sumpter Valley Ry. Make sleeping car reservations through the Agent of the O-W-R-N Co. at Baker.

"I suffered intensely after eating and no medicine or treatment I tried seemed to do any good," writes H. M. Young, Editor of The Sun, Lake View, Ohio. "The first few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets gave me surprising relief and the second bottle seemed to give me a new stomach and perfectly good health." For sale by all good Dealers.

Don't overlook the big Clearance Sale now on at Schenk Bros.

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